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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/736,150	12/15/2003	Osamu Nagai	13712	3663
ORUM & ROT	7590 11/05/200 H	EXAMINER		
53 W. JACKSC	N BLVD	BURCH, MELODY M		
CHICAGO, IL 60604			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3657	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			11/05/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, PROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  - Established for mapty is evaluated to the provision of 30° FR1 1-180°, in no event however, may a reply be trinky filled.  - If NO period for regly is epocified above, the neximum statutory point of will expire SIX (8) MONTHS from the mating case of this communication Failur to review within the sid or carefulded privated from year will be provided by the form the mating of the communication Failur to review within the sid or carefulded privated from year to 1, 1970 Failur to review within the sid or secretal private from year to 1, 1970 Failur to review within the sid or secretal private from year to 1, 1970 Failur to review within the sid or secretal private from year to 1, 1970 Failur to review within the sid or secretal private from year to 1, 1970 Failur to review within the side of the communication Failur to review with the provided private from year to 1, 1970 Failur to review of the side of the communication Failur to review of the side of the communication Failur to review of the side of the communication Failur to review of the side of the communication Failur to review of the side of the communication Failur to review of the side of the communication Failur to review of the side of the side of the communication Failur to review of the side of the side of the communication Failur to review of the side		Application No.	Applicant(s)					
Molody M. Burch   S657		10/736,150	NAGAI, OSAMU					
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address → Period for Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  **Enablasis for time may be available under the provinced and 3 of FR1 1-1869, in the overt. (however, may a reply be timely filled.  **If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum ablationy period will apply and uspire SNX (0) MONTH'S from the matting date of this communication.  **Failur to reply while this set or constructed period for aginy will, by stablus carbie uspitiscation become ABANDOCIP (35 U.S.C. 3 135)  **Failur to reply while this set or construction of the matter and period will apply and the matter and period will be set of the communication. In the matter and period will be set on the set of the matter and period will be set on the matter and period will be set o	Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit					
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  - Extractions of time rays be available under the provisions of 3° CFR 1.356(a). Time event, however, may a reply be timely filled.  - If No period for early is specified above, the maximum astationy parton value group, and will expire x(8) plottlers the melling gate of this communication for early in specified to early in the mailing gate of this communication, even if timely filled. They refore any search patent term adjustment. See 3° CFR 1.764(b).  Status  1) □ Responsive to communication(s) filled on 88 October 2009.  2a) □ This action is FINAL.  2b) □ This action is non-final.  3) □ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.  Disposition of Claims  4) □ Claim(s) 1.14 is/are pending in the application.  4a) Of the above claim(s) 1.3.5.7.9.11 and 13 is/are withdrawn from consideration.  5□ □ Claim(s) is/are allowed.  5□ □ Claim(s) is/are allowed.  6) □ Claim(s) 1.14 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.  Application Papers  9) □ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  10) □ The drawing(s) filled on 15 December 2003 is/are: a) □ accepted or b) □ objected to by the Examiner.  Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 3° CFR 1.85(a).  Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) objected to See 3° CFR 1.121(d).  11 □ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.  Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119  12 □ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  3 □ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  2 □ Certified copies of the priority documents have been rece		Melody M. Burch	3657					
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### **DETAILED ACTION**

#### Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/8/09 has been entered.

# **Drawings**

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the limitation of one of the hydraulic shock absorbers being arranged to damp *only* during compression and the other of the shock absorbers being arranged to damp *only* during expansion as recited in claims 2 and 14 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate

changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

3. In addition to Replacement Sheets containing the corrected drawing figure(s), applicant is required to submit a marked-up copy of each Replacement Sheet including annotations indicating the changes made to the previous version. The marked-up copy must be clearly labeled as "Annotated Sheets" and must be presented in the amendment or remarks section that explains the change(s) to the drawings. See 37 CFR 1.121(d)(1). Failure to timely submit the proposed drawing and marked-up copy will result in the abandonment of the application.

### Specification

4. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: The originally filed specification fails to provide support for the phrase "one of the hydraulic shock absorbers being arranged to damp *only* during compression" and the phrase "another of the hydraulic shock absorbers being arranged to damp *only* during expansion" in claims 2 and 14.

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### Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

6. Claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The phrases "one of the hydraulic shock absorbers being arranged to damp only during compression" and "another of the hydraulic shock absorbers being arranged to damp only during expansion" in claims 2 and 14 do not enable one to make and/or use the invention in light of the drawings and portions of the originally filed specification. Although paragraph [0051] of the published application states "dampened by the compression side damping force generated by the compression side damping force generating means 101 of the hydraulic shock absorber 100 in the compression stroke, and by the expansion side damping force generated by the expansion side damping force generating means 201 of the hydraulic shock absorber 200 in the expansion stroke", the drawings as well as other paragraphs of the published application suggest that the shock absorbers are not arranged such that one is arranged to damp only during compression and one is arranged to damp only during

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expansion as claimed. For example, compression side damping force generating structure 101 shows both a check valve 43 for damping flow resulting from compression strokes as described in paragraph [0031] and a check valve 44 for damping flow resulting from expansion strokes as described in paragraph [0034]. Similar illustrations and descriptions exist for the expansion side damping force generating structure. In light of the illustrations and various sections of the specification supporting nonexclusive compression and expansion damping, the description does not enable one to make or use the exclusive (from the use of the term "only") damping aspect of the claimed invention. Because it is known in the art to have a check valve that provides damping, Examiner maintains that the language precluding the damping function of check valves needed to have been presented in the originally filed disclosure to avoid 112 rejections for new matter. Please note check valve 44 in US Patent 7354363 to Foster et al. and check valve 52 in US Patent 5787932 to Pierce, examples used to support the Examiner's position that it is known in the art for check valves to provide a damping. The remaining claims are rejected due to their dependency from claim 2.

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# Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 1st paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

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# Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed 7/16/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Examiner already presented the Lohr reference which used the terms check valve and damping valve interchangeably, suggesting that the check valve also serves as a damping valve. Examiner further presented instances in the art where it is expressly stated that the check valve provides damping. Please note check valve 44 in US Patent 7354363 to Foster et al. and check valve 52 in US Patent 5787932 to Pierce. Because it is known in the art to have a check valve that provides damping (and also because element 44 is configured as a damping valve since it is spring loaded permitting the level of damping to be dependent on the stiffness of the spring [see paragraph [0026]]), Examiner maintains that the language precluding the damping function of the check valves in the instant invention needed to have been presented in the originally filed disclosure to avoid 112 rejections.

### Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melody M. Burch whose telephone number is 571-272-7114. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (6:30 AM-3:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Siconolfi can be reached on 571-272-7124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

mmb November 1, 2009

/Melody M. Burch/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3657